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EXAMINER	
HUTTON JR, WILLIAM D	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	5

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/742,859	GORMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Doug Hutton	2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *29 January 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *20 December 2000* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2 and 3*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "a" in Lines 9 and 11 should be amended to — the — because the web application has previously been identified in the claim;
- the phrase "*other visual components* of the plurality of visual components" in Lines 12-13 should be amended to — nodes of the web application — because identifying the nodes as "other visual components" is inaccurate and makes the limitation confusing since there are already three "visual components" in the claim;
- the phrase "plurality of visual components of" in Line 14 should be deleted because it is the web application that is transferred, not the visual components of the authoring tool; and
- the phrase "plurality of visual components" in Line 17 should be amended to — nodes — because it is the nodes that are executed, not the visual components of the authoring tool.

Claims 8 and 16 are objected to using the same rationale explained in the above objection to Claim 1.

Claims 2-7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- these claims contain too many elements identified as "visual components" without distinction between the different types of visual components; Applicant should amend the claims to better distinguish between the different types of visual elements.

Claims 9-15 and 17-20 are objected to using the same rationale explained in the above objection to Claims 2-7.

Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the claim recites a "means for" (see Lines 7-9) that attempts to further define the "means for" of Claim 8 (see Lines 9-11). This fails to further define the "means for" of Claim 8 because the "means for" of Claim 8 already includes the "means for" that is more specifically defined in Claim 11.

Claims 12, 13 and 15 are objected to for the reason discussed in the above objection to Claim 11.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Faustini, U.S. Patent No. 6,557,164.

Claim 1:

Faustini discloses a method for developing web applications and executing the developed web applications on a computer network (see Column 1, Lines 28-32), the method comprising the steps of:

- visually generating both decision logic for a web application and a visual layout for the web application on a development computer using a plurality of visual components (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that includes a "plurality of visual components" for developing web applications; the tool includes "visual components" for "generating decision logic" for the web application in that the code for the application is automatically generated by the authoring tool based on the developer's interactions with the authoring tool, as explained in the cited text; the tool also includes "visual components" for "generating a visual

layout" for the web application in that it displays the actual layout of the application that is developed, as shown in Figure 17), the plurality of visual components comprising:

- at least one visual component to accomplish a particular function in a web application (see "visual components" 502-530 and 540-572 in Figure 5 that "accomplish a particular function" in the application);
- at least one visual component to arrange the visual layout of a web application (see "visual components" in the windows of Figure 16 that "arrange the visual layout" of the application); and
- at least one visual component to link together other visual components of the plurality of visual components (see "visual components" in the front window of Figure 16 that "link together other visual components" of the application);

- transferring the plurality of visual components of the web application to at least one server accessible by users on a computer network (see Column 1, Line 28 through Column 5, Line 47 – the application is deployed to "at least one server accessible by users on a computer network," as explained in the cited text); and
- executing sequentially the plurality of visual components of the web application in response to a request of a user on the computer network for the web application (see Figure 16; see Column 89, Lines 10-12 – the "plurality of visual components of the web application" are "executed sequentially" upon "request of a user on the

computer network for the web application," as explained in the cited figure and text).

Claim 2:

Faustini discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein said step of visually generating both decision logic for a web application and a visual layout for the web application comprises the steps of:

- opening a visual workspace on the development computer (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that "opens a visual workspace");
- selecting a visual component from one of the at least one visual component to accomplish a particular function and the at least one visual component to arrange the visual layout (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that allows the developer to "select a visual component" that "accomplishes a particular function" and "arranges the visual layout");
- inserting the selected visual component into the visual workspace (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that allows the developer to "insert the selected visual component into the workspace");
- configuring operation of the inserted visual component to correspond to a desired operation in the web application (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23

through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that allows the developer to "configure operation of the inserted visual component" in that the component can be edited);

- connecting the inserted visual component to at least one other visual component in the visual workspace with the at least one visual component to link together other visual components (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that allows the developer to "connect the inserted visual component to at least one other visual component in the visual workspace"); and
- repeating the steps of selecting, inserting, configuring and connecting until the web application is generated (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose an authoring tool that allows the developer to repeat every step until the web application is generated).

Claim 3:

Faustini discloses the method of Claim 2, wherein said step of visually generating both decision logic for a web application and a visual layout for the web application comprises the further steps of:

- creating at least one system variable to store information and communicate the stored information between visual components (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose

"variables" that "store information" and "communicate" that information between visual component); and

- using the created at least one system variable with at least one corresponding visual component of the plurality of visual components (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "variables" that are used with visual components).

Claim 4:

Faustini discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein said step of executing sequentially the plurality of visual components comprises the steps of:

- retrieving, in sequence, each visual component of the plurality of visual components (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "visual components" that are "retrieved in sequence");
- interpreting, in sequence, with a corresponding interpreter on the at least one server, each retrieved visual component (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "visual components" that are "interpreted in sequence" by an interpreter on the server); and
- evaluating, in sequence, on the at least one server, each interpreted visual component (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line

47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "visual components" that are "evaluated in sequence").

Claim 6:

Faustini discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein said step of transferring the plurality of visual components of the web application to at least one server further comprises the steps of:

- retrieving all files associated with the web application and the plurality of visual components created during generation of the web application (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose retrieving "files associated with the web application" and the "visual components" that are created during generation of the web application);
- combining the retrieved files associated with the web application and the plurality of visual components into a single file (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose combining the "retrieved files" and the "visual components" into a "single file");
- selecting a server from the at least one server to receive the combined file (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "selecting a server" to "receive the combined file");
- verifying authority to transfer the combined file to the selected server (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "verifying authority to transfer the combined file"); and

- deploying the combined file to the selected server (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "deploying the combined file to the selected server").

Claim 7:

Faustini discloses the method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of testing the web application and the plurality of visual components for errors before said step of transferring the plurality of visual components of the web application to at least one server (see Figures 5-17; see Column 69, Line 23 through Column 99, Line 47 – the figures and the cited text disclose "testing the web application and the plurality of visual components for errors").

Claims 8-13 and 15:

These claims merely recite a system that performs the method of Claims 1-4 and 6-8. Thus, Faustini discloses every limitation of these claims using the same rationale set forth in the above rejections for Claims 1-4 and 6-8.

Claims 16, 17, 19 and 20:

These claims merely recite computer software that performs the method of Claims 1-4 and 6-8. Thus, Faustini discloses every limitation of these claims using the same rationale set forth in the above rejections for Claims 1-4 and 6-8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5, 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faustini, U.S. Patent No. 6,557,164, in view of Hind et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,715,129.

Claim 5:

As indicated in the above discussion, Faustini discloses every element of Claim 4.

Faustini fails to expressly disclose an application server that stores the transferred web application.

Hind teaches an application server storing the transferred web application and a web server that:

- receives at the web server the request from the user on the computer network for the web application;
- transfers the request from the web server to the application server storing the web application;
- retrieves, interprets and evaluates on the application server each visual component of the web application;

- transfers output for the user generated from the evaluation of the plurality of visual components of the web application to the web server; and
- communicates the output for the user over the computer network to the user with the web server (see Column 1, Line 8 through Column 2, Line 49),

for the purpose of dynamically generating the content for a requested web page.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method, disclosed in Faustini, to include an application server storing the transferred web application and a web server that:

- receives at the web server the request from the user on the computer network for the web application;
- transfers the request from the web server to the application server storing the web application;
- retrieves, interprets and evaluates on the application server each visual component of the web application;
- transfers output for the user generated from the evaluation of the plurality of visual components of the web application to the web server; and
- communicates the output for the user over the computer network to the user with the web server,

for the purpose of dynamically generating the content for a requested web page, as taught by Hind.

Claim 14:

This claim merely recites a system that performs the method of Claim 5. Thus, Faustini, in view of Hind, discloses and teaches every limitation of this claim using the same rationale set forth in the above rejection for Claim 5.

Claim 18:

This claim merely recites computer software that performs the method of Claim 5. Thus, Faustini, in view of Hind, discloses and teaches every limitation of this claim using the same rationale set forth in the above rejection for Claim 5.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Williams, U.S. Patent No. 5,850,548; Beckett et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,564,368; and Hamada et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,182,278.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Doug Hutton whose telephone number is (703) 305-1701. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached at (703) 308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

WDH
April 18, 2004

HEATHER HERNDON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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